Doshisha University International Newsletter





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CONTENTS

News 1-	-7
Overseas Offices	8
Greetings	9

News

Mr. SUN Xin from the Faculty of Letters and Mr. LI Jiacheng from the Faculty of Social Studies Appointed as Kyoto Prefecture Friendship Ambassadors

At the 2023 Kyoto Prefecture Friendship Ambassador Appointment Ceremony held on Monday, June 19, Mr. SUN Xin from the Department of Philosophy, Faculty of Letters, and Mr. LI Jiacheng from the Department of Education and Culture, Faculty of Social Studies, were appointed as Kyoto Prefecture Friendship Ambassadors.

Kyoto Prefecture Friendship Ambassadors are appointed among international students studying at universities and other institutes in Kyoto Prefecture who have a strong desire to serve as a bridge between Kyoto Prefecture and other parts of the world to play a role in Kyoto Prefecture's internationalization programs.

They will be dispatched to various programs in various locations, including participation in school classes and international exchange programs in the community.



In addition to academic performance, applicants are comprehensively evaluated on their motivation, positive attitude, Japanese language proficiency, and communication skills through an interview. Ambassadors are selected every year from our university.

They are very much expected to play an active role in Kyoto Prefecture's internationalization programs.

News



Mr. SUN (left), Mr. LI (right)

[Comment by Mr. SUN Xin]

I am very happy to be appointed as a Kyoto Prefecture Friendship Ambassador.

At first, I applied, hoping to increase my communication opportunities, but I never expected to be selected.

I will be graduating in a year, but in the remaining time, I will never forget my original intention and will continue to strengthen communication within Kyoto Prefecture and with the world to further enliven the communities in Kyoto.

[Comment by Mr. LI Jiacheng]

I am truly excited to be appointed as a Friendship Ambassador.

Serving in this role is a great honor and responsibility for me.

I am grateful for the opportunity to promote friendly relations between China and Kyoto Prefecture and to deepen our understanding of different cultures.

My goal is to be a bridge through dialogue and mutual understanding.

I hope that by conducting and participating in diverse cross-cultural exchange activities as a Friendship Ambassador, I will gain a deeper understanding of Japanese culture and help Japanese people deepen their understanding of Chinese culture.

I pledge to do my best to fulfill my mission as Friendship Ambassador and to be a bridge for building friendly relations.

Introduction to Video Message from Dr. Emmanuel Todd to Doshisha University Students

Dr. Emmanuel Todd, a French historical demographer, provided a video message for Doshisha University students.

The 2023 summer camp program for Doshisha University Neesima Juku was conducted, with a book by Dr. Todd as the assigned reading. Prior to the camp, Neesima Juku students were deepening their learning by working on their assignments through the book. On the day of the camp program, the author, Dr. Todd himself, provided them with a video message.



[Comment by Prof. UEKI Tomoko, President of Doshisha University, Neesima Juku Program Leader]

Doshisha University is offering Doshisha University Neesima Juku from AY2019 as a new educational program to foster individuals who transcend the boundaries between arts and sciences and are equipped with comprehensive knowledge to lead the next generation. One of the Neesima Juku's programs is the "Basic Intellectual Strength Training Camp." This year, it was held for four days at the Doshisha Biwako Retreat Center from September 1 (Fri.) to 4 (Mon.).

At this year's camp, Dr. Emmanuel Todd provided a video message exclusively for Neesima Juku students. It is a great honor for us to receive a message from Dr. Todd, who is active on a global scale. I would like to express my sincere gratitude to Dr. Todd, Visiting Professor SATO Masaru, Mr. NISHI Yasushi from Bungeishunju Ltd., Ms. OHNO Mai, interpreter, and all those involved for their cooperation.

In his message, he talked about what he hoped students would learn through the upper and lower volumes of his book "Où en sommes-nous? : une esquisse de l'histoire humaine," one of the books for assignment, and provided some advice for students living in the world today. The link to the video is available on our website, and I hope that many students will watch it.

One of Neesima Juku's guiding principles is "to know that there is more than one solution to a problem and that the ability to look at things from different perspectives and to capture the essence of things is indispensable." I hope that all the Neesima Juku students will use the knowledge gained at this camp, including preliminary study, as their own flesh and blood. I also hope that the students will learn that there are many different ways of thinking through many discussions with their peers and lecturers and that by learning without being biased toward a particular field, they will understand the importance of facing and exploring academics and further broaden their activities in the future.

Students who are not participating in the Neesima Juku are also encouraged to watch this video and use it as a source of learning for themselves.

[Comment by Ms. OKURA Rina, 3rd-year student in the School of Theology, Neesima Juku student]

I was frankly surprised and very impressed that Dr. Emmanuel Todd would send a message directly to us students. He told us that many people and countries today are losing their historical awareness and that it is important to have a long-term, historical perspective in order to understand the camp's theme, "Where we are," and the future. Just as he said, "Things are not that simple," so there are, and will be, many complex issues in the world today and in the future. While keeping in mind Dr. Todd's words that left the greatest impression on me, "What seems outdated is actually very advanced," I will continue to work hard to improve myself so that I can contribute to society as one of the people living in this world.

Dr. Emmanuel Todd's profile

Born in France in 1951. A historical demographer. Graduated from Sciences Po and received a Ph.D. in history from the University of Cambridge.



News

International Cultural Exchange Event Held as UNESCO's 70th Anniversary Commemorative Event: "Arts and Culture for Peace Initiative: Fostering a Culture of Peace and Sustainable Development through Transformative Education"

An international cultural exchange event titled "Arts and Culture for Peace Initiative: Fostering a Culture of Peace and Sustainable Development through Transformative Education" was held to commemorate UNESCO's 70th anniversary from September 11 (Mon.) to 15 (Fri.).

This event was co-hosted by the Life Risk Research Center at Doshisha University and the UNESCO Associated Schools Network (ASPnet) UK, the UK National Commission for UNESCO. It was made possible through collaboration with a number of related organizations, including the UK National Commission for UNESCO, the **UNESCO** Headquarters/ASPnet International Coordination Unit, the Center for Computational Social Science at Kobe University, the International Society for Education, and Tamagawa University (Teacher Education Institute of ASPnet).





UNESCO's philosophy of pursuing peace through the promotion of education and culture is closely linked to the university's founding spirit of conscience and its educational philosophy, especially internationalism. It is a delight for the university to host this international cultural exchange event with the aim of engaging in the Arts and Culture for Peace Initiative and deepening discussions for world peace.

At the opening on Monday, September 11, President UEKI gave a welcome speech to the learners and educators participating in this international cultural exchange event. Next, Dr. SEN Genshitsu, a UNESCO Goodwill Ambassador and alumnus of Doshisha University, gave an inspiring message to the participants, introducing the philosophy of "Peacefulness through a Bowl of Tea" based on his own war experience and explaining the social significance of this international cultural exchange event held in line with UNESCO's philosophy, which he shares.

For five days from Monday, September 11, the participants joined programs mainly in Kyoto, including various traditional Japanese cultural experiences, visits to World Heritage sites, interaction at elementary schools that are ASPnet members, and discussions with experts.

The participants from various countries with diverse cultural backgrounds enthusiastically engaged in the activities, learned together, and discussed with each other to learn more about UNESCO's culture of peace and sustainable development.



At a time when the global situation has taken on a new dimension and difficult circumstances continue, it is very important to share UNESCO's philosophy with the next generation, who will play a leading role in the future. It is a great pleasure for the university to have played a role in this endeavor. Those who participated in the international cultural exchange event co-hosted by the university are expected to grow up to be future leaders of peace.



Ms. KAJIMOTO Ichika, Member of the University's Official Swimming Club Who Competed in the World Aquatics Championships - Fukuoka 2023 and FISU World University Games, Visits President UEKI

Ms. KAJIMOTO Ichika, a second-year student in the Faculty of Health and Sports Science, who competed in the World Aquatics Championships - Fukuoka 2023 and the FISU World University Games held in Chengdu, China, from July to August last year, visited President UEKI on Friday, October 20, to report her results.

She represented Japan in the women's 5 km open water swimming event in the World Aquatics Championships, finishing in 14th place, Japan's best result. In the following FISU World University Games (formerly Universiade), she won a total of three medals: gold in the women's 400 m medley, silver in the women's 1500 m freestyle, and bronze in the women's 4x200 m relay.

Upon receiving the results report, President UEKI commented: "I would like to congratulate you on your outstanding achievement and express my respect for your past commitment and efforts. I wish you continued success in your future endeavors." President UEKI commended her for her excellent results. Let us look forward to Ms. KAJIMOTO's future activities.



Report: "Nuno-Zouri Japanese-Style Fabric Indoor Footwear WORKSHOP" (presented by SIED)





Hello, we are SIED!

During lunchtime on Friday, June 23rd and Friday, 30th, we held an event called "Nuno-Zouri Japanese-style Fabric indoor footwear WORKSHOP" at the International Community Lounge (on Kyotanabe campus). 9 people participated on the 23rd, including 5 international and 4 local students. On the 30th, a total of 7 people participated, including 4 international and 3 local students.

At the event, we knitted fabric using "Hooked Zpagetti," a thread that was upcycled from pieces of T-shirt manufacturing.

On June 23rd, the participants first deepened their relationship through an icebreaker activity which made a group by putting together pieces of the distributed photos like puzzles with other participants' photos. After that, we started making fabric footwear. At first, some participants had a little difficulty with knitting. But after

getting the knack of it, everyone did it smoothly and sometimes helped each other to make the footwear.

On the 30th, as all participants had participated on the 23rd, we did not have an icebreaker and continued to work on making fabric footwear. At the end of the event,



we saw participants who were satisfied with their work. They also took pictures wearing completed fabric footwear and showed them each other.



Thank you to everyone who participated this time! SIED will continue to hold various fun international exchange events. We look forward to your participation \triangleright

Report: "Let's Try Nihon-Buyo" (presented by SIED)

Hello, we are SIED.

We held an event "Let's experience Nihon-buyo" with the cooperation of Kyoto Culture Center on October 15th (Sun.).

11 local students and 18 international students participated in this event. At first, participants changed into kimonos which have different patterns.



News

Then, they experienced Nihon-buyo, Japanese traditional dance, with Japanese traditional song "Sakura". The teacher taught how to dance Nihon-buyo. It was difficult to dance in kimono for participants, but after a few more practices, they were able to dance with flowing movements.

The participants seemed very happy to have an out-of-theordinary experience.

After the event, participants took pictures of each other in kimono. Some participants seemed to have become good friends despite meeting each other for the first time.



SIED will continue to organize exciting events. Hope to see you soon in different events!





Overseas Offices

Doshisha University's overseas offices were established in order to further promote its rapid and effective internationalization. At our overseas offices, we are implementing mainly public relations activities to increase the profile of Doshisha University, while at the same time making the most of the characteristics unique to each office. In addition, we are undertaking various efforts to recruit international students, support Doshisha students while they are studying overseas, and provide on-site support to our faculty members.

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Greetings

Message from the Office of International Affairs

Warm greetings from Kyoto!

In our university, there are what we call "Global Village" and "International Exchange Lounge" as hubs for multicultural exchanges, providing an effective studying space for students who aspire to be active globally in the future. Those students also can consult individually with a study abroad coordinator regarding their plans.

The coordinator supports the students by offering advice on program choices, preparations, activities to engage in



while abroad, cautionary points, and personal goals after returning to Japan. Through these consultations, the coordinator helps students enhance their competence to actively participate in a global society in the future.



At the "Global Village" on Imadegawa Campus, "Go Global Assistant" is also there to help internal students with any questions or concerns they may have about studying abroad. The members of "Go Global Assistant" are international students from all over the world studying at Doshisha.

Best Wishes, Office of International Affairs

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